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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

Published Weekly by

THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

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May 7, 1945. Vol. XXIII. No. 29.

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BOTH THE ARTICLES FOR SALE AND THE SELLER HAVE SALES APPEAL

This happy boy, looking as though he might have just finished sampling one of the pastries or candies he is hawking through the streets of a Venezuelan city, helps fill the sweet tooth of inhabitants of the oil-rich republic stretching along the northern shore of South America. Venezuelans are Spanish-speaking and largely mestizo, or of mixed Spanish and Indian stocks. In remote areas live full-blooded Indians; in such old cities as Caracas, the capital, pure Spaniards are found; and along the Caribbean coast Negroes have established colonies in most cities. Though Venezuela is a rich country due to its oil, most of its people are poor. The mother of this boy probably made the delicacies on the wooden tray to supplement the family income and help meet the country's notorious high cost of living (Bulletin No. 2).

Loran Kahle

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

The Geographic School Bulletins are published weekly throughout the school year (thirty issues) and will be mailed to teachers in the United States and its possessions for one year upon receipt of 25 cents (stamps or money order); in Canada, 50 cents. Originally entered as second-class matter January 27, 1922; re-entered as of April 27, 1943, Post Office, Washington, D. C., under Act of March 3, 1879. **Copyright, 1945, by National Geographic Society, Washington 6, D. C. International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Quedan reservados todos los derechos.**

Dresden, Target by Land and Air, Was Trade and Art Center

DRESDEN, the great German city south of Berlin whose central position brought it relative immunity from Allied arms during the first four years of war, found the situation sharply reversed in 1945. In January defenses were hurriedly set up against an expected Soviet breakthrough from the east. In February its guns were pointed skyward against one of the most devastating aerial blows ever delivered from England. In March and April it found itself in the middle of an ever-narrowing German corridor between the smashing United States armies driving from the west and relentless Soviet forces to the east.

Before war gave it the distinction of being one of the last inland north German cities to hold out against the Allies, Dresden had long been famous as a commercial and cultural center. Railway trunk lines linked it with such important cities as Berlin, Vienna, and Breslau. Streamliners made the run to Berlin, 100 miles north, in 95 minutes.

Was Once Capital of a Kingdom

Occupying both banks of the Elbe, the city early developed a river trade which in modern times expanded as its main harbor was improved, two winter harbors added, and extensive docks built. The city's industrialization was helped along by neighboring coal mines; iron and glass factories; and plants for making surgical instruments, chemicals, machinery, photographic apparatus, paper, and porcelain. Eight bridges speeded traffic. Prewar Dresden, the seventh city of Germany proper, was not quite as large as San Francisco.

Before the unification of Germany, Dresden was the capital of the Kingdom of Saxony. Its world-renowned picture gallery, the Zwinger (illustration, next page), was originally the vestibule of a royal palace built to rival Versailles. It housed Raphael's "Madonna of San Sisto" (The Sistine Madonna), and masterpieces of Holbein, Titian, Rubens, and Van Dyck. The Madonna, purchased in 1753 by Saxony's art-loving king, Augustus III, was hung in the throne room. The story goes that the king shoved his throne aside with his own hands in order to place the picture in the most advantageous position.

Prewar visitors found the Saxon capital most inviting during the summer months. Tree-shaded avenues, wooded parks, and terraced gardens overlooking the Elbe were gay with outdoor cafes. At the city's popular rendezvous, the Brühl Terrace—built on former fortifications—visitors watched the world go by as they sipped their drinks, products of local distilleries and breweries. Dresden was one of Germany's cleanest cities. Special seats were provided in the parks for children "with muddy boots."

Dresden China Made in Meissen

The municipal opera house and the School of Music early fostered in Dresdeners a love of music. They heard the first performance of Richard Wagner's "Tannhäuser"; they followed the work of von Weber who composed "Der Freishutz" while living there. In more modern times Dresdeners demanded music to accompany their favorite winter sport of ice-skating.

Down the Elbe 13 miles lies the little town of Meissen, home of famous Dresden china. In the early 18th century the first hard porcelain in Europe was produced there—a product which brought increasing fame to Saxony.

Dresden, originally founded by the Slavs, existed as early as 1206. Later, as

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Frank Outram

DOWN WHERE THE MONSOON BLOWS, BURMA ROAD DRIVERS FOUND GENERAL MUD THEIR WORST ENEMY DURING RAINY SEASONS

Two buses (foreground), serving as trucks, tried to pass on a narrow, slippery fill near a culvert of the old Burma Road, slid off the roadway, and created a traffic jam in the jungle that would do credit to U. S. 30. Munitions boxes (right) have been unloaded from one bus to lighten it, while drivers of the stalled truck convoy (background) have come forward to help get the bus back on the road. Note the track leading to the ford (right). This was probably the stream's only crossing before the concrete culvert was built to speed up traffic on this back-door supply route to China, recently reopened as the eastern section of the Stillwell Road (Bulletin No. 4).

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Venezuela Devotes Its Great Resources—Oil—to Axis Defeat

NOT until 1945 did Venezuela make news by declaring a state of belligerency against Germany and Japan, but the South American republic's immense oil output has been bad news for the Axis ever since the present war started in 1939.

Nazi submarines persistently menaced the Caribbean Sea, mainly because United States oil tankers had to cross it en route to east coast ports. During the war and even before it the United States, the No. 1 oil-producing nation in the world, imported millions of barrels of petroleum from Venezuela.

Two Oil Fields Make Venezuela Third in Petroleum Ouput

In 1940 more than 30 million barrels were imported from Venezuela into the United States. This tremendous flow of petroleum into the United States becomes understandable when it is realized that Uncle Sam is an oil middleman; his exports exceeds his imports.

The past quarter-century has seen Venezuela rise to third place in world production. (Second place is held by the Soviet Union.) In 1917, the country's fields produced 120,000 barrels; four years later, more than a million barrels. In 1928 production exceeded 100 million barrels; and in 1939 passed the 200-million mark.

Most of Venezuela's oil has been produced in the western coastal area of the country, near Lago de (lake) Maracaibo, actually not a lake, but a pear-shaped bay of the ocean about twice the size of Lake Ontario. Reminiscent of the off-shore wells of southern California, wells have been sunk in the bottom of the "lake" itself (illustration, next page).

In recent years a new field has been developing in the east, in the Orinoco River valley. United States companies have leased over 3,000 square miles of this new Venezuelan oil territory. A 16-inch pipeline, 100 miles long, handles much of the new output.

Petroleum Development Has Opened Country

Petroleum is responsible for about three-fourths of Venezuelan exports, with a prewar return of some $150,000,000 a year to the producers. These producing companies are for the most part owned in the United States, Great Britain, and the Netherlands. Petroleum royalties, which represent the part paid to the Venezuelan Government, take care of a large part of the republic's national budget.

Oil development in Venezuela has been of great economic value in opening up undeveloped country. Roads were cut through dank tropical jungles, and the oil companies built schools, hospitals, and whole towns, complete with sewage systems, and gas and electric plants.

Venezuela has a refinery, recently enlarged, at San Lorenzo on the shore of Lago de Maracaibo; and another has been established at Caripito in the eastern field. While most Venezuelan petroleum is exported in its crude form, these refineries in 1940 processed about 25,000,000 barrels, 80 per cent of which passed into export trade.

Three-fourths of Venezuela's output of crude oil normally is transported to the islands of Aruba and Curaçao, just off the Venezuelan coast. These islands of the Netherlands West Indies have refineries that pour out a steady stream of fuel, lubricating, Diesel, and other oils. Aruba's large refinery has a record capacity of 285,000 barrels of oil a day; another plant on Curaçao refines an almost

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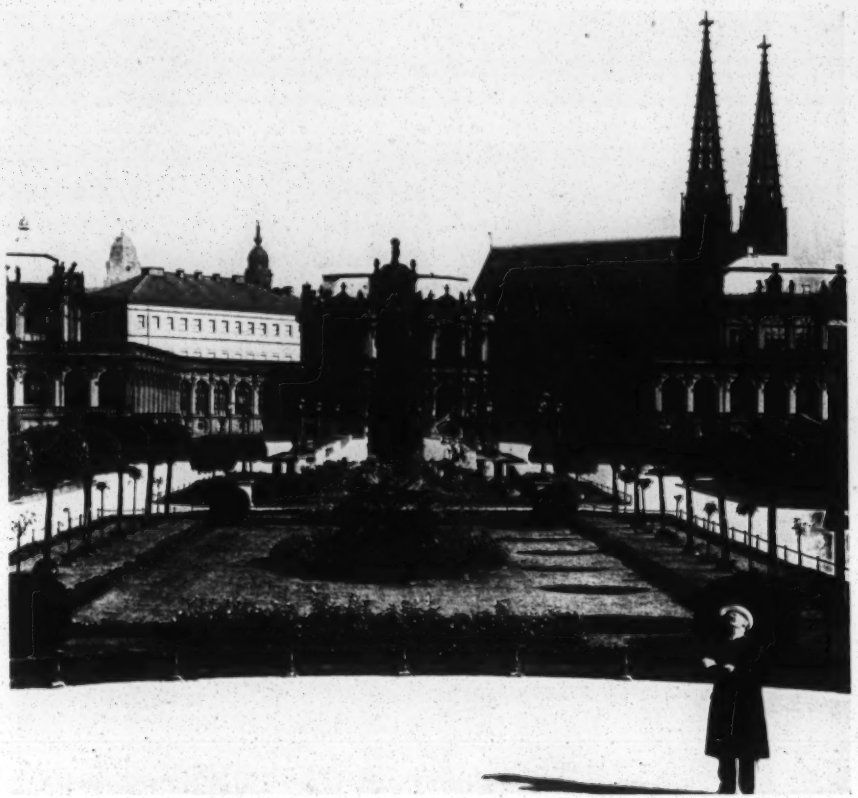
a small German fishing village and a fortified town, it was successively ruled by German and Polish kings. It was burned to the ground in 1491. When rebuilt it was fortified.

Napoleon made it his headquarters and further fortified it in the early 19th century. His last victory, the Battle of Dresden, was won there over combined Russian, Austrian, and Prussian forces. A few years later the fortifications were destroyed and replaced by boulevards and parks. Less than a dozen miles from Dresden stretches a region of rock-studded ravines, wooded areas, and steep mountains—the "Saxon Switzerland."

Note: Dresden is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Germany and Its Approaches, issued as a supplement to the *National Geographic Magazine* for July, 1944. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

Bulletin No. 1, May 7, 1945.



Ewing Galloway

A GAPING SIGHTSEER MARVELS AT PREWAR DRESDEN'S BEAUTY: A SECTION OF THE ZWINGER, ART GALLERY HOME OF RAPHAEL'S SISTINE MADONNA

COLOR PLATES FROM THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE

A number of separate color pictures from the *National Geographic Magazine* may be obtained from the National Geographic Society for educational use. The pictures are available in packets of 48 sheets and 96 sheets at 30c and 50c a packet respectively. Selections may be made from a subject list available at the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

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German University Cities Overrun by Victorious U. S. Armies

UNITED States armies sweeping eastward across Germany have taken a quartet of cities famous chiefly for their universities, but also for the scientific and artistic achievements of their sons.

Heidelberg was the seat of one of Germany's oldest universities, dating from 1386. The main buildings, centrally located, lacked dormitories, so the students were scattered in the homes of the townsfolk. The university spirit permeated the city. Before the war Heidelberg had 1,750 students, nearly a fourth of them women. Duels were features of university life. These were fencing bouts between the five rival corps. A facial scar was a badge of honor.

"Most Beautiful City in Germany"

Heidelberg was famed in song and story—written about by Mark Twain and Longfellow, sung about in Romberg's "The Student Prince." The tuneful drinking song from this operetta was popular with the students.

Heidelberg's old moated castle rose 330 feet above the river. The city stands on the banks of the Neckar River, about 12 miles above its junction with the Rhine at Mannheim. The old town occupies a plain, the newer part climbs the hill slopes. With its shady streets, lovely public gardens, and mountain setting, Heidelberg was often called Germany's most beautiful city.

In Würzburg the X-ray was discovered in 1895 by Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen, a physics professor working at the University. His discovery is known both as the Roentgen ray and the X-ray. A street in Würzburg is also named for the scientist.

The 100,000 residents of the city lived on both sides of the Main River, connected by a 15th century stone bridge (illustration, next page). Towering 425 feet above the river is the old Marienberg Fortress which in earlier wars withstood the attacking forces of some of Europe's ablest generals.

The Main valley was noted for its wines but Würzburg attained more fame for its beer which inspired the once popular song "Down where the Würzburger Flows."

Würzburg factories made furniture, pianos, railway cars, precision instruments, machinery, sugar, chocolate, and marmalade.

Zeiss Bomb Sight Plant Made Jena a Bomb Target

At Jena, deep in the Saale River valley 12 miles east of Weimar, Allied forces reached the battlefield where Napoleon defeated the Prussians in 1806. It is a desolate plateau northwest of the city. The Zeiss plants producing bomb sights, gun sights, range finders, and other optical devices made Jena a target for Allied bombers. About 12,000 of the city's 60,000 people normally were employed in these factories.

In 1908, its 350th anniversary, the University of Jena moved from its original quarters in an old cloister to new buildings. In its heyday it had 3,000 students; its prewar enrollment was less than 1,000. A century and a half ago Jena's faculty included the poets Schiller and the Schlegel brothers, and the philosophers Schelling, Herder, Hegel, and Fichte.

In Jena's market place, rimmed with medieval buildings, students sat at tables and sang their stein songs. Goethe wrote the "Erlkönig" along the river near by, and at Jena Schiller wrote "Wallenstein."

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equal amount daily.

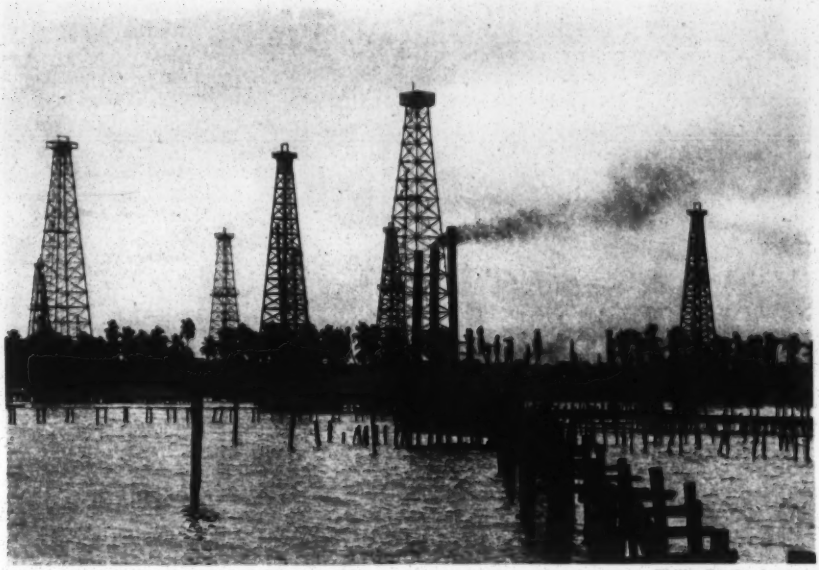
In 1941, oil accounted for almost 94 per cent of the value of all Venezuelan exports. Next in order came coffee and cacao. Relatively undeveloped resources include forest and agricultural products. Great inland plains (*llanos*) could support many more than the 3,000,000 cattle which now graze there. Gold is mined in the State of Bolivar.

Venezuela's area is 352,143 square miles, larger than Texas and Oklahoma combined. Its prewar population (illustration, cover) was about 3½ million, equal to Indiana's. The country has a federal structure like that of the United States, being made up of 20 states, a federal district, and two territories. Its full name is United States of Venezuela.

Diplomatic relations between Venezuela and the Axis nations were severed by the former on December 31, 1941. A state of belligerency was declared by the South American country on February 14, 1945.

Note: Venezuela is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of South America. See also, "Caracas, Cradle of the Liberator," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1940*; and "I Kept House in a Jungle," January, 1939*. *(Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of Magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00.)*

Bulletin No. 2, May 7, 1945.



Philip D. Gendreau

A NEW KIND OF FOLIAGE LINES THE SHORE OF LAGO DE MARACAIBO

Among the palms of northwest Venezuela, derricks cover an oil field so rich that wells are sunk on the bottom of this long arm of the sea. Rude walkways between derricks are reminders of the "lake's" first settlers—Indians who lived in houses built above the water on stilts. Spaniards, perhaps sarcastically, named the region "Little Venice"—Venezuela—after seeing villages of such structures. Today the city of Maracaibo, second-largest in Venezuela, is a booming oil town exporting millions of barrels of petroleum annually to the United Nations.

SAVE WASTE PAPER

Paper is essential to victory. Save every scrap of it. Your local salvage committee will tell you how waste paper helps win the war.

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Seasonal Monsoon Rules Burma Fighting

M-DAY—"M" for monsoon—is on its way to Burma. This annual visitor from the Indian Ocean, which begins to make itself felt about the end of May, will seriously slow down the progress the Allies have been making in Burma.

When the seasonal, water-laden wind strikes the combat zones in full force in June, it will become the main adversary facing the armies in India and Burma. It will put a damper on military operations, both the amphibious drive down the coast toward Rangoon, and the inland push toward the same vital seaport. Activities along the Stillwell (Ledo) Road, recently opened life line to China's back door, are likely to be slowed up (illustration, next page).

Meteorological Makings of a Monsoon Traced

Day after day of heavy rain changes the face of the earth, and tests the works of man. Streams overflow their banks. Bridges are swept away. Mountain trails become flood channels. Lowlands are converted into lakes. Roads become greasy with mud.

The excessive moisture attacks materials and equipment. Rust, rot, and mildew are its handiwork. Malaria-bearing mosquitoes thrive in the damp warmth. Malaria becomes a greater menace. Leeches infest the foliage along jungle paths. A world turned to water keeps planes on the ground (illustration, next page), and immobilizes heavy weapons.

Northern India and Upper Burma swelter through April and May. The sun has moved deep into the Northern Hemisphere. Day temperatures approach 100 degrees. Skies are almost cloudless. A gray pall of dust hangs over the land. Rain is rare. The air is sticky and oppressive except when churned by an occasional rain squall.

As land temperatures rise, atmospheric pressures fall. A definite low pressure area is formed over the land, usually by the first of April. Sea air is pulled inland, gains headway as the season advances. The summer monsoon is in the making; it is gathering its strength offshore.

Rainfall Measured in Feet

About the middle of June the monsoon "bursts" in full force, rushes over the sea at a furious pace, and hits the coasts of India and Burma to the accompaniment of thunder, lightning, and rain. The water-freighted wind is funneled northward by coastal ranges of the two countries, twisting to the west as it reaches the head of the Bay of Bengal.

Mountains cause the warm, moist air to rise. In this ascent it is cooled, condensation occurs, and an enormous amount of rain falls. Growing things get a new lease on life; the earth becomes green again; land temperatures drop.

The southwest monsoon makes June, July, August, and September the wettest months of the year. Broad areas of Bengal, Assam and Upper Burma regularly look for an annual rainfall of 428 inches, or nearly 36 feet. The area at the juncture of India's Khasi Hills and Burma's Arakan Ranges is credited with the world's heaviest rainfall. One station reported 905 inches—about 75 feet—for one year. The southwest monsoon is nature's water boy, bringing to India about 85 per cent of its total rainfall.

Normally, the summer monsoon continues until the middle of September over

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There were several printing plants and book publishing houses at Jena, as well as factories making scientific instruments, machinery, and chemicals.

Göttingen, about midway between the Rhine and Berlin, has played a part in American education. Benjamin Barton, the first American student, who entered Göttingen University in 1789, became a member of the University of Pennsylvania faculty. Among the 1,400 other Americans who also studied at Göttingen were Longfellow, Edward Everett, and the historians, Motley and Bancroft.

The Grimm brothers of fairy-tale fame were connected with the library, and founded the chair of Germanic languages and archeology. Goethe spent some time at Göttingen in 1801.

The university buildings were scattered about the city of 50,000 residents. With a riding school, cafes, beer halls, and bookshops, the city was campus and dormitory for the students. In prewar days they enjoyed their "Frühschoppen" or morning drinks in the open spaces of the market square. The town hall facing this square was built in 1370. First mentioned in the 10th century, the city had a long and varied history.

Göttingen had extensive printing plants, textile mills, and factories making scientific instruments. It had good rail connections with Berlin, Hamburg, Frankfurt, Munich, and Basel in Switzerland.

Note: These captured university cities may be located on the Society's Map of Germany and Its Approaches.

Bulletin No. 3, May 7, 1945.

Merlin Minshall

STONE SAINTS, OLDER THAN THE UNIVERSITY, WATCH THE MAIN AT WÜRZBURG

In prewar days Würzburg's beer flowed freely enough to be celebrated in song. Under the arches of this ancient bridge—connecting the halves of the city which the river divides—the Main flows down to the Rhine. Between the shallow, curving arches, massive stone buttresses project into the river, serving as pedestals for the more-than-life-size statues of twelve saints. In peacetime, on July 8, for the feast of St. Kilian, Würzburg's patron saint, colored lights festooned the bridge from shore to shore.

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Geo-Graphic Brevities

LEIPZIG, COMBINING BUSINESS AND CULTURE, MADE NAME IN FAIRS, FURS, AND BOOKS

CAPTURED Leipzig was prewar Germany's fifth city in population (700,000). The city's traditional flair for culture was anchored to a solid business leadership recognized throughout the mercantile world. Leipzigers were not only proud of their ancient university, conservatory of music, and their concerts, but also of their book publishing, fur marketing, and their international trade fairs.

Situated in a broad plain at the junction of the Elster and the Pleisse rivers, Leipzig lies about 235 miles northeast of Cologne (Köln) and about 85 miles southwest of Berlin. The city grew on the site occupied in 1015 by a Slavonic castle named Libzi. As the centuries passed, Libzi gradually became Leipzig.

The infant town was well located for trade. Through it passed routes between Poland and Thuringia, Bohemia and north Germany. Success of its first trade fairs prompted the Margrave of Meissen to forbid other fairs on near-by sites. Visiting traders arrived over improved roads, their safety assured by the margrave.

Modern fairs had spring and autumn displays. Exhibits overflowed fair halls into office buildings. Before the war thousands of manufacturers were showing samples of their wares. A separate fair held in grounds outside the business district featured machinery and implements. Fair weeks were gala occasions.

Germans regarded Leipzig as the headquarters of the nation's book business. Thousands of publishers, book stores, and agents of firms outside the city were listed in trade directories. At Leipzig were published the familiar Baedeker tourist guidebooks, and cheap paper editions of successful books.

The city pulled down its walls after the Allies had beaten Napoleon in the Battle of Leipzig. On the space once given to its ring of defenses, public squares and the so-called "ring streets" were laid out. A new municipal building rose on the site of the old citadel. The city broke out of its cramped area for room to grow. Suburbs gradually girdled the inner town.

Leipzigers cherished their musical heritage. They remembered that Wagner was a native son, that Mendelssohn had conducted concerts in the old Cloth Hall, that Bach had played the organ in the Church of St. Thomas, and that Schumann taught in the conservatory.

Ranked with London and St. Louis as a fur market, Leipzig drew buyers from all the world to the busy street known as the Brühl. At auction time furs filled the old houses and courtyards flanking the street.

Leipzig's rail terminal was one of the largest in Europe. Superhighways from Berlin, Dresden, and Nürnberg fed into Leipzig through minor roads.

* * * * *

MILE-HIGH BAGUIO WAS PHILIPPINES' SUMMER CAPITAL

BEFORE the Japs took Luzon, heat-oppressed Manila residents used to say "Let's fly up to Baguio and cool off." Destruction in both cities, after bitter, protracted battles for their liberation, may put off for a long time after the war the possibility of summer holidays in Baguio.

Situated on a mile-high plateau, this resort is about 130 air miles northwest of Manila. Daytime temperatures never rise above 75 degrees. At night the mercury falls to lows that make a wood fire welcome. Government officials, Filipino and American, had homes in Baguio and made the city the "summer

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the whole of India. Bombay, among the first cities to feel the wind, loses it in mid-October. Through November and December the monsoon is retreating down the Bay of Bengal, leaving a soggy land under a bright sun and clearing skies.

The monsoon makes the seasons in southern Asiatic countries. In fact, the word comes from the Arabic *mausim*, meaning a time, or a season. The year is divided into wet and dry seasons, a contrast to temperate areas, where temperature variations provide the basis for seasons.

Note: For additional information about weather, see "Weather Fights and Works for Man," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for December, 1943; and, in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, November, 1944, "Typhoon Is Pacific Version of Atlantic Hurricane"; and "Willy-willy, a Furious Wind, Belies Its Sissified Name" (Geo-Graphic Brevity), March 8, 1943.

Bulletin No. 4, May 7, 1945.

U. S. Army Air Forces Official

NON-MONSOON WEATHER IS NEEDED FOR MILITARY OPERATIONS IN BURMA

British Tommies board a glider at a base in India. Hundreds of them and American Engineers were towed deep into Jap-held Burma where they cut an airfield out of the jungle behind Jap lines. This air commando attack, first of its kind in history, began March 5, 1944, early enough in the year to build the field, get normal operation under way, and give air support to advancing ground troops before the monsoon started in June.

A Gift to Education—How Teachers May Co-operate

THE GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS are a gift of the National Geographic Society to education. There is a charge of 25¢ a year, partially to cover postage and handling.

Because these Bulletins represent a substantial gift to schools from The Society's educational fund, the expenses of advertising or circulation promotion—possible for a commercial publication—cannot be undertaken. The Society must rely upon supervisory officials and teachers to call them to the attention of colleagues who might use them effectively. This should be done promptly so that applicants may be put upon the mailing list to receive the early issues in the fall.

capital" of the Philippines. The prewar permanent population was 25,000.

Air-cooled trains carried thousands of Manila's residents to Baguio every hot season. From the capital the trains ran for lush leagues through rice fields, coconut groves, villages of palm leaf huts, and Tagalog towns. At the foothills passengers left the trains for buses that zigzagged up an American-built road to the breeze-swept heights (illustration, below).

Once a mere cluster of pine shacks and Igorot huts, Baguio in its modern dress was planned by an American architect. It includes about 13,000 acres, and spreads along miles of pine-shaded walks and drives. An artificial lake was set in the city park. A baseball diamond and a golf course are features of the Americanized landscape. Near-by United States Army camps, one for convalescents, gave the city a military frame.

The liveliest spot before the war was the Sunday market. Igorots hawked their carvings—articles ranging from pagan images to wooden spoons and book ends. Hens cackled unrestrained; cows and sows vied for buyers' notice. Fish formed like vegetables, and tubers in the shape of animals and human hands and feet had their own special sales appeals. Variety and quantity of produce displayed gave the market the air of an agricultural fair.

Note: Baguio is shown on the Society's Map of the Philippines.

See also, "What Luzon Means to Uncle Sam," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for March, 1945; and "Facts About the Philippines," February, 1942*.

Bulletin No. 5, May 7, 1945.

Charles Martin

IT'S A LONG, LONG ROAD TO BAGUIO EVEN IN PEACETIME

Horseshoe bends and hairpin curves pattern the climbing road to Baguio in the mountains of central Luzon. It scallops along precarious ledges from the lowland rice fields to the islands' summer capital where the Japs entrenched themselves for one of their last-ditch stands in the Philippines. Peacetime visitors had to take buses from the end of the railroad to reach the welcome breezes of this mountain resort. It was from Baguio, before the city's capture, that U. S. forces, aided by Igorot guides, rescued from the clutches of their Jap captors 7,000 prisoners of many nationalities.